Media Advisory

National Weather Service
Des Moines, IA

June 8, 2004

2004-07

New NOAA Weather Radio Station at Ringsted
WNG-688 Broadcasting at 162.475 Mhz

A new NOAA Weather Radio station is now serving parts of six
Iowa and two Minnesota counties around Ringsted. WNG-688 began
transmitting weather information on June 8, 2004. The
preliminary broadcast-service area includes **Emmet, Palo Alto,
Kossuth, Humboldt, Hancock and Winnebago counties in Iowa and
Faribault and Martin counties in Minnesota.** A field signal survey
will determine the final broadcast service area, which will be
announced on a subsequent media advisory.

The new NOAA Weather Radio station is broadcasting from the
Ringsted Telephone Company radio tower in Ringsted which is a
willing partner in keeping parts of northwest Iowa and southwest
Minnesota informed about hazardous weather.

NOAA Weather Radio is an all-hazard warning system, and it
provides the quickest way to receive National Weather Service
emergency messages. Emergency messages include tornado and
severe-thunderstorm watches; tornado, severe-thunderstorm, flash-
flood, blizzard and high-wind warnings; and civil-emergency
messages. All emergency messages are sent using the 1050 Hz tone
alert, which will trip those NOAA Weather Radio receivers with a
tone alert feature. The messages also contain Emergency Alert
System (EAS) codes, which are used by the broadcast media to
relay emergency messages to their listeners. NOAA Weather Radios
broadcast routine weather information 24 hours a day.

For detailed information about NOAA Weather Radio, including a
list of NOAA Weather Radio manufacturers and of NOAA Weather
Radio stations serving Iowa and the country, please visit the
NOAA Weather Radio section of the National Weather Service, Des
Moines, web site at http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dmx/nwr.shtml.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Johnson, Warning
Coordination Meteorologist, by telephone at 515-270-4501,
Extension 726, or by e-mail at jeff.johnson@noaa.gov. Thank
you.